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ANCIENT PATRONAGE OF MUSICAL COMPOSERS.—

There is, in the possession of a musical amateur of the present day, well known for his encouragement of the science, a copy of the London Gazette, No 3585, and dated March 21st, 1699, which contains the following strange advertisement (at least, as it would appear in the present day), evincing the encouragement afforded at that early period of the musical art. It is as follows: "Several persons of quality having, for the encouragement of music, advanced two hundred guineas, to be distributed in four parts—the first of one hundred guineas, the second of fifty guineas, the third of thirty guineas, and the fourth of twenty guineas—to such masters as shall be adjudged to compose the best; this is, therefore, to give notice, that those who intend to put in for the prizes are to repair to Jacob Tonson, at Gray's-Inn Gate, before Easter Day, where they may be further informed." It is conjectured, according to the "Orpheus Britannicus," that the Earl of Halifax was a liberal contributor to this fund. The poem selected as a libretto was the "Judgment of Paris," written by Congreve. Weldon, Eccles, and Daniel Purcell (brother of the celebrated composer), were three of the competitors, and the latter, it is supposed, was in some degree successful, from his afterwards publishing the score. Jerry Clark being asked why he did not compose for the prize, gave for answer—"that the nobility were to be the judges," leaving the inquirer to make his own inference.—*Dramatic and Musical Review.*

BRIEF CHRONICLE OF THE LAST MONTH.

HANOVER SQUARE ROOMS.—The freehold of these favourite rooms has just been purchased by Messrs. Cocks and Co. for £12,820.

WORCESTER.—The Festival of the present year will take place August 26, 27, 28, and 29th. The arrangements will be as follow:—On Tuesday morning, a full Cathedral Service; on Tuesday evening, Handel's "*Acis and Galatea*" entire, after which a selection of concert pieces. On Wednesday morning, Spohr's "*Last Judgment*" with a chronological selection of Cathedral anthems. In the evening a Miscellaneous Concert. On Thursday morning, Handel's "*Messiah*" at the Cathedral. Mendelssohn's "*First Walpurgis Night*" will form the principal feature of the evening concert on Thursday at the College Hall. There will also be a selection of concert music afterwards. On Friday evening a grand ball.

A MUSICAL FESTIVAL is in the course of organization to be held at Wurzburg in August next, in which sixteen hundred vocalists are to take part.—*Musical World.*

HANDEL'S MESSIAH.—The following vocalists have promised to take part in the performance of the *Messiah*, on the 18th of June, for the benefit of the Royal Society of Musicians. Misses Birch, Rainforth, Dolby, Sabilla Novello, and Maria B. Hawes; Messrs. J. Bennett, Manvers, Machin, and Staudigl; supported by the band and chorus belonging to the concerts of ancient music.

BEETHOVEN.—The inauguration of the Beethoven monument is to take place at Bonn, towards the close of July. A grand musical festival is to be given on the occasion, which is to last several days.

THE DERBY CHORAL SOCIETY has just completed its 28th season, and we find from the Derby Mercury that it is in a very flourishing condition.

THIRD ANCIENT CONCERT.—Director, His Grace the Archbishop of York. The Choral pieces performed were, Selection from Creation, Haydn: Gloria in excelsis; Mass in C, Beethoven; Hymn to the Emperor, Haydn; Chorus and Solo, Gluck; The Lord shall reign, Israel, Handel.

A NEW MODE OF GIVING CONCERTS.—At Liverpool, Mr. H. V. Lewis proposes giving a series of concerts, which he denominates "Invisible Amateur Concerts," (from the performers being unobserved by the audience) the object being to bring forward and foster the musical amateur talent of the town.—*Liverpool Mail.*

THE CHORAL FUND.—This excellent institution, whose object is the relief of aged and decayed musicians, their widows, and orphans, gave its annual concert on 22nd of May. The artistes who have granted their assistance are Madame Dorus Gras, Misses Schloss, Pyne, Sabilla Novello, and Maria B. Hawes; Messrs. J. Bennett, Machin, J. Calkin, Pischbeck and Staudigl. In the Instrumental department, Made-moiselle Judine, Mr. Moscheles and the Distin Family, with a numerous band and chorus, under the direction of Sir Henry R. Bishop, Messrs. Loder and G. F. Harris.—*Olivier's Court Journal.*

HANDEL'S SOLOMON AND HAYDN'S CREATION have both been performed during the last month by the Sacred Harmonic Society at Exeter Hall; and *St. Paul*, by Mendelssohn, has been fixed for the 2nd June, when Her Majesty has expressed her intention of being present.

HANDEL'S ORATORIOS, as performed by the Sacred Harmonic Society, Exeter Hall, and Mr. Hullah's Classes; arranged for the Organ or Pianoforte, with Vocal Score, by Dr. John Clarke, of Cambridge, and Mr. G. Perry.

The Messiah.....	Folio	12	0
Acis and Galatea.....	"	7	6
Alexander's Feast.....	"	12	0
L'Allegro ed il Pensieroso.....	"	20	0
Judas Maccabeus.....	"	21	0
Israel in Egypt.....	"	21	0
Dettingen te Deum.....	"	8	0
Jubilate.....	"	6	0
Samson.....	"	21	0
Jephtha.....	"	21	0
Saul.....	"	21	0
Solomon.....	"	21	0
Esther.....	"	21	0
Athalia.....	"	21	0
Theodora.....	"	21	0
Coronation and Funeral Anthems.....	"	16	0
Deborah.....	"	21	0
Creation—Haydn (by E. Sturges).....	"	21	0
Any of the Songs, Duets, Choruses, &c. from the above may be had separately, also the Orchestral Parts.			

Now Publishing, a Standard Edition of **HANDEL'S WORKS** (large paper), as performed by the Sacred Harmonic Society, Exeter Hall. Arranged for the Organ or Pianoforte (with Vocal Score), by Dr. John Clarke, of Cambridge, and Mr. G. Perry. Annual Subscription, £1. 1s. for two Oratorios, in paper covers, or bound in cloth, £1. 5s.—The "*Messiah*" and "*Deborah*" are now ready; also, Haydn's "*Creation*;" price to the Subscribers to Handel's Works, 10s. 6d. or 12s. 6d.

Subscribers' Names received by Mr. Surman, 9 Exeter Hall, where an extensive Catalogue may be obtained of Anthems, and Music in Single Parts, for the use of Festivals, Choral Societies, and Singing Classes.